

# RIPON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ➤ ANNUAL REPORT ➤

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1898.

### West Riding Registration Sub-Districts.

				Population.		Area in Acres.
Ripon	...	...	...	2,939	...	21,648
Kirkby Malzeard	...	...	...	2,480	...	25,797
Dishforth	..	...	...	348	...	1,722
Wath	..	...	...	22	..	938
				<hr/> 5,789		<hr/> 50,105

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1898, as Medical Officer of Health for the Ripon Rural District.

Attached hereto are Statistical Returns of Births and Deaths in each Registration Sub-District, at what ages the deaths have occurred, and if from Zymotic Disease, the character of such disease.

A summary of these Returns shew the following facts, namely: that 109 births have been registered, 50 males and 59 females, 4 being illegitimate.

That 71 deaths have occurred (37 males and 34 females) during the year, being at the rate of 12·2 per 1000 per annum for the whole District, as against 13·4 last year.

6 deaths have occurred in infants under one year, giving 8·4 per cent of the deaths, and at the rate of 1 per 1000 per annum; and 43 deaths of persons of the age of 65 years and upwards, being at the rate of 7·4 per 1000 per annum, and 60·5 per cent of the deaths.

There were only 3 deaths from Zymotic Diseases, and all occurred in infants from Whooping Cough, and in each case the secondary cause was convulsions.

3 deaths were due to Phthisis, and 5 from other forms of pulmonary affections.

5 deaths were due to heart disease, 4 to influenza, and 2 from injuries.

I am requested by the Local Government Board to state in my Annual Report what has been done to carry out the General Orders of the Board.



In reply to Orders 1 to 3.

On information received from the Sanitary Inspector, and from personal observations, I have kept myself informed of the various diseases that have prevailed in the District.

I have received 16 notifications of Infectious Diseases in different parts of the District, namely :

11 from Scarlatina at Grewelthorpe ; 1 from Scarlatina at Mackershaw Lodge ; 1 from Typhoid Fever at Sawley ; 3 from Erysipelas—1 at Sharow, 1 at Grewelthorpe, and the other at Galphay Woods.

I reported last year as to the outbreak of Scarlatina at Grewelthorpe. I ordered the School to be closed until the epidemic abated.

A severe outbreak of Influenza occurred in the neighbourhood of Aldfield in the month of January, and I thought it advisable to order the School to be closed for a fortnight.

In the Spring an epidemic of Measles broke out in the village of Bishop Monkton, in this instance I ordered the School to be closed for a time.

The case of Scarlatina at Mackershaw Lodge was believed to have been imported from one of the large towns in the West Riding.

The Typhoid Fever at Sawley was imported from Stockton Fever Hospital.

The case of Erysipelas at Galphay Woods—on inspection of the premises I found the privy accommodation unsatisfactory, and the outbuildings unspouted, hence in wet weather the fold yard is flooded and overflows near the house, causing a nuisance.

As to Orders 4 and 5

I attend all Meetings of the Sanitary Authority and Parochial Committees where necessary, and give my advice on the several matters brought before them.

As to orders 6 to 10.

I have visited places where there were any outbreak of Infectious Diseases and given instructions to prevent the spread of the Disease.

No case of over-crowding has occurred.

There has been no case of diseased meat or food.

No offensive trades are carried on in the District.

As to Orders generally

During the year I made a Special Report on the present system of Drainage in the village of Grewelthorpe—a copy of which was sent to the Local Government Board—I need not therefore repeat the same. I am glad to say that a new Drainage Scheme is now under the consideration of the District Council.

In my report for 1897 I stated that the village of Kirkby Malzeard was without a system of drainage, and in a Special Report in April of that year I stated “that there were a large number of small holdings, “and many cattle and horses are kept, there is no main sewer, there are a few surface drains, but a good deal “of sewage runs on to the surface of the road, and in wet weather is washed into a small stream which enters “the River Rex near the mill.”

The subject has again been brought under your notice by the Inspector of Nuisances, who reported as follows:—“There are 40 houses without drains, 3 drain into tanks which overflow into the street, 4 others “are drained into tanks which are cleansed by the occupiers. The ashpits are generally uncovered and in a “filthy condition, caused chiefly by slop water.”



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I examined a sample of water from a pump near Ure Bank Terrace. The pump supplied water for 4 Cottages, the water was quite unfit for use.

The well has since been cleaned out, and the water is now satisfactory.

I also examined a sample of water from Mr. Hlingworth's, Monkton Moor, it was in a bad condition, being full of sediment, and evidently contaminated with sewage.

A new well has since been sunk in a better locality.

I made a Special Report during the year on the water supply for Galphay.

A Committee was appointed to investigate the matter—This Committee has paid considerable time and attention to the subject—Waters have been analysed, and new springs sought for. I believe that negotiations are now going on regarding a spring close to the Village, which has been reported pure by the public analyst, and if this can be obtained the village is likely to obtain an excellent supply at a comparatively small outlay.

I examined a sample of water from a well at Mr. Harrison's, Azerley, which I condemned as unfit for domestic use.

I also examined a sample of water from property belonging Mr. T. Hardcastle, at Skelton—I found it to be unfit for use.

I also at the same time examined the house and premises, and found it in such a dilapidated condition, that I condemned it as unfit for habitation.

The house has since been pulled down, and the owner is now erecting a new one.

There are 3 Cottages adjoining above, which are badly spouted, ashpit and privy accommodation being also defective.

At Park Green, Bishop Monkton, the drainage was in very defective condition—the sink pipes being untrapped.

A new drain with the necessary gullies and ventilator have been constructed, and the ashpit cemented and covered over.

3 Cottages at Azerley, the drainage is bad, and the owner has promised to lay a new drain.

At Toldrum and Winksley an improved water supply is in progress, but as the works are not yet completed, I will leave my full report upon until later on.

Many nuisances of a minor importance have been remedied.

Copies of this Report will be sent to the Local Government Board, and the West Riding County Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOS. COLLIER,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*To*

*The Ripon*

*Rural District Council.*

